

Reasons for Allowance

Claims 1-4, 6-12, and 14 -26 are found allowable.

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-4, 6-12, and 14-19 and 21-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Osbourn et al. (USPN 3,212,495) in view of Van Dyke et al. (USPN 6,316,598 B1).

However, the previous art of record does not fairly teach the claimed invention drawn to a skin patch comprising a support having an electrically charged surface resulting from the application to the support of an ionizing field.

.Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to TIMOTHY E. BETTON whose telephone number is (571)272-9922. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30a - 5:00p.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Sreeni Padmanabhan can be reached on (571) 272-0629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TEB

/SREENI PADMANABHAN/
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